

## **Congressman Tiberi and Mayor Coleman Announce Bipartisan Task Force to Support Ohio Job Creation**

### **First Order of Business: Proposed Lithium-ion Battery Plant in Columbus**

Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 8, 2011 – Congressman Patrick J. Tiberi (R-OH) and Mayor Michael B. Coleman of Columbus have formed and will co-chair a bipartisan task force that seeks to galvanize support for projects with the potential to create thousands of jobs in Ohio. A proposed Lithium-ion cell and battery pack manufacturing facility to be built in Columbus is the first project on the agenda.

**“The formation of this task force demonstrates support on both sides of the aisle for projects that bring jobs and economic relief to the people of Ohio,” said Congressman Tiberi. “Clean energy manufacturing represents a tremendous opportunity for Ohio to re-industrialize our economy and put Ohioans back to work building the technology that will power the future.”**

Additional members of the task force include:

- Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
- Senator Rob Portman (R-OH)
- Congressman Steve Stivers (R-OH)
- Governor John Kasich

Initially, the task force will work to secure a formal letter from the new Ohio delegation demonstrating widespread, bipartisan support for the proposed battery facility. The facility is contingent upon the approval of a Department of Energy Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing (ATVM) Loan submitted by CODA Holdings, a California-based company. The ATVM program, created in 2007 and appropriated in 2008, is intended to accelerate the deployment of advanced technology vehicles. The task force will also develop strategies to transform Columbus and other Ohio cities into national “hubs” for the deployment of clean energy technology including electric vehicles.

**“Unemployment doesn’t discriminate, and so we need to work together to create jobs,” said Mayor Coleman. “I have been working closely with CODA’s leadership at the state and federal levels to ensure this project is given the amount of attention it deserves. Following the State of the Union, it’s clear that electric vehicles will be a hallmark of America’s energy strategy moving forward. My goal is for Columbus to be a manufacturing hub at the epicenter of this movement.”**

The battery systems produced at the proposed Columbus facility would power CODA’s 100% electric vehicles. CODA currently sources its battery systems from a joint-venture facility abroad. The Ohio facility would allow the company to supply its vehicles with U.S.-made batteries and expand U.S. battery manufacturing capacity. Over the first four years of operation the plant could support more than 2,000 highly skilled jobs directly and thousands of other jobs indirectly.